

What is claimed is:

Sub 1 A blower unit mounting structure comprising:  
an instrument panel including an upper panel and  
a lower panel that are vertically divided along a  
5 transverse direction of a vehicle body; and  
at least a steering support beam and a blower unit  
assembled to the lower panel to form a unitized component,  
wherein the unitized component is mounted on the  
vehicle body before the upper panel is mounted on the  
10 vehicle body.

2. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth  
in Claim 1, further comprising:

a front bulkhead including a vertically wall  
15 surface with an opening,

wherein a duct of the blower unit is connected to  
the opening for taking outside air into the blower unit.

3. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth  
20 in Claim 1, further comprising:

a toe board having a recessed portion

wherein said blower unit comprises:

a leg portion extended toward the toe board side  
and engaged with the recessed portion.

4. The blower unit mounting structure as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising:

a toe board having a recessed portion wherein said blower unit comprises:

5 a leg portion extended toward the toe board side and engaged with the recessed portion.

5. A method for mounting a blower unit comprising the steps of;

10 preparing an instrument panel including an upper panel and a lower panel that are vertically divided along a transverse direction of a vehicle body;

forming a unitized component by assembling at least a steering support beam and a blower unit to the lower panel;

15 mounting the unitized component on the vehicle body; and

mounting the upper panel to the vehicle body.

20 6. The method for mounting a blower unit as set forth in Claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

preparing a recessed portion mounted on a toe board and a leg portion which is mounted on the blower unit and is extended toward the toe board; and

25 engaging the leg portion with the recessed portion.